

Art Unit 2651
Serial No.10/698,273

Reply to Office Action of: June 28, 05
Attorney Docket No.: K35A1342

REMARKS

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 103(a):

Claim 1 is rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,979,055 issued to *Squires et al.* ("*Squires*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,108,151 issued to *Tuttle et al.* ("*Tuttle*"). In particular, the Examiner argues that "*Squires et al.* discloses a procedure[] for a servo channel head gain calibration in a disk drive" while *Tuttle* "is relied on for the teaching of the servo channel head gain calibration for the zoned servo channel head gain calibration." The Examiner does not address the limitation of Claim 1 which recites "stopping the first calibration process for the first head if the first comparison result does not exceed a threshold value." As noted by the Examiner, *Squires* does not even disclose the use of multiple zones in a calibration process, but neither does *Tuttle* disclose, teach, or suggest this limitation. In fact, *Tuttle* actually teaches away from the recited limitation. *Tuttle* states that "[t]he initial values for the shadow registers are determined through a calibration procedure which measures the optimum settings for each zone. When the read head passes into a new zone, the calibrated settings corresponding to the new zone are loaded into the shadow registers." (Col. 11, line 66 – Col. 12, line 3). Thus, *Tuttle* teaches away from stopping the calibration procedure before the optimum settings for each zone are measured.

Because *Squires* and *Tuttle* fail to teach, suggest, or disclose each and every limitation of Claim 1, and moreover, because *Tuttle* actually teaches away from the limitations of Claim 1, the *Squires-Tuttle* combination fails to render Claim 1 obvious. See MPEP § 2143 ("the prior art reference (or references when combined) much teach or suggest all the claim limitations"); MPEP § 2141.02 VI ("A prior art reference must be considered in its entirety, i.e., as a whole, including portions that would lead away from the claimed invention."). Claims 2-11 each depend on Claim 1 and are allowable over the *Squires-Tuttle* combination for at least that reason. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-11.

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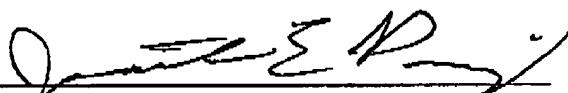
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and/or remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the rejections. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any required fees associated with this Communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1209

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 22, 2005

By: 

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